

Minutes of Special Meeting

The Board of Education Jenison Public Schools

A special meeting of the Board of Education of Jenison Public Schools was held Monday, May 12, 2025, beginning at 6:22 pm in the Jenison Center for the Arts Boardroom.

Call to Order:

President of the Board of Education, Dr. Hartman, called the Jenison Public Schools Board of Education Special Meeting to order at 6:22 pm.

Members Present:

Eric Hartman, D.C.,
President

William Waalkes,
Vice President

Chris Reed, Ph.D.,
Treasurer

Jen Postema,
Secretary

Jennifer Griffin, DPM
Trustee

Donna Mooney
Trustee

Shannon Hogan,
Trustee

Others Present:

Brandon Graham, PhD,
Superintendent

Leslie Philipps,
Assistant Superintendent /
Title IX Coordinator

Christine Marcy,
Director of Finance and
Operations

Purpose of the Public Hearing:

Under Section 380.614 of the Revised School Code, the Ottawa Area ISD Biennial Board Election needs to follow specific guidelines for its elections. According to the guidelines, each constituent district must designate a voting representative and an alternative to cast a vote for the board candidate(s) the board chose to support to fill the open seats on the OAISD Board of Education. The board must vote by a resolution adopted between May 12 and May 30, 2025 (no earlier than 21 days before the date of the election) designating a voting representative, alternate, and stating their supported candidate(s). Per law, a constituent school board must consider the resolution through at least two public meetings, which can be on the same day or evening, before adopting the resolution. This resolution must be submitted no later than May 30. The official candidate list was confirmed by the Ottawa County Clerk's Office. A board representative must plan to attend the June 2 election meeting.

Approval of Agenda:

Dr. Reed motioned to approve the agenda with the amendment to include "Public Comment" before the meeting. Mr. Waalkes seconded the motion. The Board of Education voted to approve the agenda as presented, with the amendment of including "Public Comment," with a vote of 6-0. Mrs. Mooney was not present during this vote.

Public Comment:

No public comment given.

Action Items:

1. Approval of Minutes:

Dr. Reed motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the April 21, 2025, Board of Education Meeting and Closed Session. Dr. Griffin seconded the motion. The Board of Education voted to approve the meeting minutes from the April 21, 2025, Board of Education Meeting and Closed Session as presented with a vote of 7-0.

2. OAISD Board Election Resolution:

To meet the requirement of holding two public meetings, this special-called meeting is to discuss the upcoming Ottawa Area Intermediate School District (OAISD) Board Election and the candidates. The Board of Education will discuss who will serve as the voting representative and alternate for the election. The Board will also review the nominees and determine which candidates to recommend for the open OAISD Board of Education seats. A resolution appointing the representative, alternate, and the Board of Education's selected candidates will be presented for approval at the regular Board of Education meeting following this special-called meeting.

The Ottawa Area ISD Biennial Board of Education Election is tentatively scheduled for June 2, 2025. There are three open positions:

- Two full-term seats (through June 30, 2031): Rick Dernberger (incumbent), Amanda Price, Jennifer Cymbola
- One partial-term seat (through June 30, 2027): John Siemion

The Board of Education discussed the interest and availability for the representative and alternate from the Board of Education for the June 2, 2025, election. They also reviewed and discussed the candidates. The vote for the representative and alternate along with the supported candidates will be in the regular meeting held after this special-called meeting.

Adjournment:

President of the Board of Education, Dr. Hartman, adjourned the Jenison Public Schools Board of Education Special Meeting at 6:32 pm with acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Postema, Secretary
Jenison Public Schools Board of Education